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Letter dated 13 April 2018 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Upon instructions from my Government, and with reference to my letter dated 12 April 2018 (S/2018/337), regarding the interception of three Houthi ballistic missiles and the downing of two Houthi unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) by Saudi Air Defence Forces on 11 April 2018, I am writing to inform you that, on 12 April 2018, Saudi Air Defence Forces intercepted a Houthi ballistic missile launched from inside Yemeni territory (Saadah Governorate), targeting densely populated civilian areas in the city of Jazan. The interception of the missile led to the dispersal of shrapnel in residential areas.

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia condemns in the strongest terms the continuation of the Houthi militias' indiscriminate terrorist ballistic missile attacks. Furthermore, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia notes with regret that the Security Council's inaction in the face of blatant violations of its resolutions, in particular the arms embargoes established pursuant to its resolutions 2216 (2015) and 2231 (2015), has allowed Iran to furnish the Houthi terrorist militias with large and growing stockpiles of ballistic missiles, UAVs and sea mines. The Houthis have used, and will continue to use, these illegally obtained weapons to threaten the regional stability of the Middle East and the safety of maritime navigation in the Red Sea and the Mandeb Strait.

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia calls for the full implementation of all relevant Security Council resolutions in order to prevent the smuggling of additional weapons to the Houthis and to hold violators of the arms embargo accountable. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia furthermore calls for the Security Council to take urgent measures to address the stockpile of Houthi weapons and to disarm this terrorist militia in order to prevent the escalation of these attacks, which raise regional tensions and raise the risks of a broader regional confrontation.

My delegation requests that the present letter be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Khaled **Almanzlawiy**
Deputy Permanent Representative
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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